Town of Port Deposit Water Treatment Plant 2008 Drinking Water Quality Report

PWSID: 007 0020

MARYLAND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE

Important Information about your Drinking Water:

Special points of interest:

- The water at Port Deposit was tested for over 120 different compounds
- The Port Deposit Drinking water meets all State and Federal requirements
- Drinking Water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some compounds. The presence of these compounds does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline (800-426-4791)

We're pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for 2008. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Maryland Environmental Service, an Agency of the State of Maryland, prepared this report on behalf of the Town of Port Deposit.

Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. More than 800 tests for over 120 compounds were conducted on the water at Port Deposit. We want you to understand the efforts made to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

We're pleased to report that your drinking water meets all Federal and State requirements. This report shows the water quality and explains what it means.

If you have any questions about this report or have questions concerning your water utility, please contact **Doug Dillon at (410) 378-4490.**

The Water at Port Deposit won **First Place** for **Best Tasting Surface Water** at the Annual MD Rural Water Competition in 2002 through 2005!!

The water for Port Deposit comes from the Susquehanna River. After the water is pumped out of the river, we settle and filter the water, add disinfectant to protect against microbial contaminants and adjust the pH of the water to protect against corrosion. The Maryland Department of the Environment completed an assessment of the source water; Copies are available upon request .

Public Meeting Information: For the opportunity to ask more questions or participate in decisions that may affect your drinking water quality, a public meeting is held the First Tuesday, each month at 7:30 pm at the Town Hall.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the regulated drinking water contaminants that we detected during the past several years. The presence of these compounds in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the table is from testing done January 1 - December 31, 2008. The State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

Port Deposit Treated Water Quality Report 2008

Definitions

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
Treatment Technique (TT)	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water

NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units
pCi/l = picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)
mrem/yr = millirem per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
ppm = parts per million or milligrams per liter
ppb = parts per billion or micrograms per liter

Contaminant	Highest Level Allowed (EPA's MCL)	Highest Level Detected	Ideal Goal (EPA's MCLG)	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Regulated at the Treatment Plant				
Gross Alpha (2007 Testing)	15 pCi/l	1 pCi/l	0 pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta (2007 Testing)	4 mrem/yr	0.24 mrem/yr	0 mrem/yr	Decay of natural deposits
Combine Radium (2007 Testing)	5 pCi/l	0.1 pCi/l	0 pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits
Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	6 ppb	0.5 ppb	0 ppb	PVC Plastics
Nitrate	10 ppm	1.11 ppm	10 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use
Nickel	0.1 ppm	0.02 ppm	0.1 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	4 ppm	1.24 ppm	4 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	2 ppm	0.046 ppm	2 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Regulated in the distribution system				
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	80 ppb	Range from 7.61 to 32.28 ppb	n/a	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	60 ppb	Range from 8.03 to 33.06 ppb	n/a	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Regulated at the Consumer's Tap				
Copper (2005 Testing)	1.3 ppm (action level)	90th percentile = 0.089 ppm	1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems
Lead (2005 Testing)	15 ppb (action level)	90th percentile = 7 ppb	0 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems
Tested at the treatment plant				
Turbidity	TT=filtration	0.60 NTU	n/a	Soil Runoff

Turbidity cannot exceed 1.0 NTU and must be < or = to 0.3 NTU in at least 95% of the measurements taken each month. In May 2008, two (2) of the 109 turbidity results were over 0.3 NTU. Total turbidity percentage below the limit in 2008 was 98.2%.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain compounds in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.